

[Please amend claim 3 to read as follows. (A marked copy of the claim is shown in Appendix A)

A1 cond 3. An insertion system for an intraocular lens according to claim 1, further comprising a deforming means, wherein the deforming means is formed integrally with the lens package.

[Please add new claims 6-²⁵~~30~~.

6. An insertion system for an intraocular lens, comprising:
an intraocular lens having a deformable optical portion;
holding means for holding the lens at a standby position in a state in which no stress acts on the optical portion of the lens;
deforming means for deforming the lens to a reduced size; and
an insertion device having an insertion tube through which the deformed lens is inserted into an eye, and a pusher mechanism for pushing and inserting the lens into the eye, wherein the holding means includes a lens moving mechanism, the lens moving mechanism lockably engaging the holding means in a first position when the lens is held at the standby position, the lens moving mechanism for moving the lens from the standby position to an insertion position at which the pusher mechanism can push and insert the lens into the eye.

A2 7. The insertion system for an intraocular lens according to claim 6, wherein a portion of the deforming means is provided on the lens moving mechanisms.

8. The insertion system for an intraocular lens according to claim 6, wherein the intraocular lens is an intraocular lens having a deformable optical portion and loop-shaped support portions each forming a predetermined angle with respect to the optical portion, and wherein a support-portion holding mechanism for holding the support portions at a predetermined angle is provided.

9. The insertion system for an intraocular lens according to claim 6, wherein the lens moving mechanism and the holding means lockably engage in a second position when the lens is in said insertion position.

~~10~~¹¹ 10. An insertion system for a deformable intraocular lens in a package, the system comprising:

an insertion device having a major axis, the insertion device defining a tubular portion and having a means for removably holding the package, the means for removably holding being associated with and in communication with the tubular portion, the means for removably holding defining a support which lies parallel to the major axis and an open portion opposite the support, the open portion shaped to receive the package; and

a pushing mechanism for movement within the tubular portion and the means for removably holding, the pushing mechanism acting to deform the lens and push the lens without the package out of the insertion system.

~~11~~¹² 11. The insertion system of claim ~~10~~¹¹ wherein the package holds the lens in a non-deformed state.

~~12~~¹³ 12. The insertion system of claim ~~10~~¹¹ wherein the means for removably holding has a means for connecting to the package and receives the deformable intraocular lens in a non-deformed position.

~~13~~¹⁴ 13. The insertions system of claim ~~10~~¹¹ wherein the package defines an opening for release of the deformable intraocular lens.

~~14~~¹⁵ 14. The insertion system of claim ~~10~~¹¹ wherein the means for removably holding has two sides connected to the support, the two sides being situated opposite of each other and each having a major surface, one of the two sides having its major surface abutting and communicating with the tubular portion.

~~15~~¹⁶ 15. The insertion system of claim ~~10~~¹¹ wherein the deformable intraocular lens has an optical portion and support portions connected to the optical portion, the package having an inner surface and an outer surface, wherein the package interacts with the support portions so that the optical portion remains free from contact with the inner surface.

~~16~~¹⁷ 16. The insertion system of claim ~~10~~¹¹ wherein the package is a quadrilateral shape.

~~17~~¹⁸ 17. An insertion system for a deformable intraocular lens, the system comprising:

an insertion device defining a tubular portion and having means for removably holding the deformable intraocular lens, the means for removably holding being associated with the tubular portion;

a lens moving means lockably engageable with the means for removably holding, the lens moving means movable from a first position to a second position wherein the lens is held in

a deformed position in the second position and in a non-deformed state in the first position;
and

a pushing mechanism for movement within the tubular portion to push the lens out of the system.

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~~16.~~ ¹⁸ The insertion system of claim ~~17~~ wherein the deformable intraocular lens has an optical portion and support portions connected to the optical portion, the means for removably holding having an inner surface and an outer surface, wherein the means for removably holding interacts with the support portions so that the optical portion remains free from contact with the inner surface of the removably holding means.

~~19.~~ ²⁰ ¹⁸ The insertion system of claim ~~17~~ wherein the pushing mechanism comprises a push rod having a center axis, and the lens has a center, wherein the center of the lens does not coincide with the center axis of the push rod when the lens is in the standby position.

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~~20.~~ ²³ An insertion system for a deformable intraocular lens, the system comprising:
packaging for removably holding the deformable intraocular lens;
an insertion device having a major axis, the insertion device defining a tubular portion and having a means for removably holding the package, the means for removably holding being associated with and in communication with the tubular portion, the means for removably holding defining a support which lies parallel to the major axis and an open portion opposite the support, the open portion shaped to receive the package; and
a pushing mechanism for movement within the tubular portion and the means for removably holding, the pushing mechanism acting to deform the lens and push the lens without the package out of the insertion system.

~~21.~~ ²⁴ ²³ The insertion system of claim ~~20~~ wherein the means for removably holding has a means for connecting to the package and receives the deformable intraocular lens in a non-deformed position.

~~22.~~ ²⁵ ²³ The insertions system of claim ~~20~~ wherein the package defines an opening for release of the deformable intraocular lens.

~~23.~~ ²⁶ ²³ The insertion system of claim ~~20~~ wherein the means for removably holding has two sides connected to the support, the two sides being situated opposite of each other and each having a major surface, one of the two sides having its major surface abutting and communicating with the tubular portion.

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24. The insertion system of claim 20 wherein the deformable intraocular lens has an optical portion and support portions connected to the optical portion, the package having an inner surface and an outer surface, wherein the package interacts with the support portions so that the optical portion remains free from contact with the inner surface of the package.

25. The insertion system of claim 20 wherein the package is a quadrilateral shape.

REMARKS

This is a timely reply to the Office Action of August 31, 2001. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects all pending claims of the application. The grounds for rejection are traversed below.

The present application has claims 1-5. Claims 6-25 are new. The application now comprises 5 independent claims and 25 total claims. The additional excess claims fees have been calculated as shown in the enclosed Excess Claim Fee paper.

Support for Amended and New Claims

Support for amended claim 1 can be found in Figure 1 and on page 13. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to contain a feature originally found in claim 1. Support for new claim 6 can be found in Figures 7A, 7B and 10A and on pages 18 and 21 of the present application. Support for new claim 7 can be found in Figure 10B and on page 23 of the present application. Support for new claim 8 can be found on pages 20-21 of the present application. Support for new claim 9 can be found in Figure 10B and on page 18 of the present application. Support for new claim 10 can be found in Figure 1 and on pages 10-11 and 13. Support for new claim 11 can be found in the paragraph spanning pages 13-14. Support for new claim 12 can be found in Figure 1 in the first full paragraph on page 11 and in the paragraph spanning pages 13-14. Support for new claim 13 can be found in the last paragraph on page 10. Support for new claim 14 can be found in Figure 1. Support for new claim 15 can be found in the paragraph spanning pages 13-14. Support for new claim 16 can be found in Figure 1. Support for new claim 17 can be found in Figures